

# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515



## SECURE OUR BORDERS AND ENSURE FAIRNESS IN OUR IMMIGRATION LAWS

February 28, 2003

Co-sponsor H.R. 775, the Security And Fairness Enhancement (SAFE) for America Act  
to eliminate the visa lottery program

Dear Colleague:

- **THE VISA LOTTERY IS A NATIONAL SECURITY THREAT**

On July 4, 2002, a gunman entered the Los Angeles International Airport and opened fire. As a result, two innocent people were killed. The killer's name was Hesham Mohamed Hadayet. He was allowed to legally reside in the United States because his wife won the infamous visa lottery.

Most visas are issued to foreign nationals that have existing relationships with lawful U.S. residents or employers. However, under the visa lottery program, applicants are chosen purely at random, which leaves open the door to those that want to enter the United States to harm our citizens.

- **THE VISA LOTTERY IS UNFAIR TO LAW-ABIDING IMMIGRANTS**

It's unfair because it treats illegal alien applicants the same as those that abide by our immigration laws. It's also unfair because it pushes 50,000 random immigrants ahead of family and employer-sponsored immigrants, who currently face waits of up to years for visas.

- **THE VISA LOTTERY PRODUCES FRAUD**

It is commonplace for foreign nationals to apply for the lottery program multiple times using many different aliases. In addition, the visa lottery program has spawned a cottage industry featuring sponsors in the U.S. who falsely promise success to applicants in exchange for large sums of money.

- **HELP IMPROVE OUR IMMIGRATION SYSTEM**

My bill will eliminate the visa lottery program. The removal of this controversial program will help ensure our nation's security, make the administration of our immigration laws more consistent and fair, and help reduce immigration fraud and opportunism.

To become a co-sponsor of the SAFE for America Act, or if you have any questions, please contact my Legislative Counsel, Branden Ritchie, by email or by phone at x55431.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob".

Bob Goodlatte  
Member of Congress